



AUSTREY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at Austrey Village Hall on
Wednesday 17th April 2019 at 7.30pm

1 – Present: Tony Treadwell (TT) chair, David Rowse (DR) vice chair, Mick Beeson (MB), Debbie Jenkins (DJ), Sam Goldney (SG), Tristan Fraser (TF) and parish clerk Lynsey Treadwell (LT) plus 6 members of the public. Pippa Smith was not in attendance, no apologies received.

2 – Declarations of interest: DR made a declaration as a member of Austrey Residents Association. The chair took this opportunity to thank David - who has decided to stand down from the council after 4 years as a councillor - for his hard work & efforts during his time as a councillor.

3 – Minutes: the minutes of last parish council meeting which took place on 13th March 2019 were approved as a true record & signed by the chair.

4 – Open Forum: We were joined by Henry King of chartered surveyors Savilles UK Ltd, a company who has experience of dealing with compulsory purchase orders (CPOs), HS2 compensation schemes and securing an acceptable outcome for Austrey. Our playing field is subject to a CPO. We have been advised that there will be no upfront costs to APC; fees will be recouped from HS2. APC will discuss ahead of the next meeting.

*APC didn't ask the landowners before a new dog waste bin was erected on Cinders Lane & the landowners are concerned about who will empty it and liability if it were to cause damage. APC are to move it a short distance on to public land.

*A member of the public asked if NWBC had responded to our enquiry from last year whereby a new property on Padgett Rise has erected a fence in their garden on the wrong side of the boundary. TT to chase.

5 - Discussions & updates on recent or regular items:

- **Donation request from Austrey C of E School** – the school wishes to set up a Recycling Scheme and create a gardening area at school but has no spare funds in the budget, so has requested funding of £510. They hope to become an Eco-school. The application & action plan was forwarded to councillors ahead of the meeting. SG proposed that we donate the amount asked for. DJ seconded and all councillors voted in favour. Motion carried.
- **HS2** – covered in Open Forum. TT & SG to take over as HS2 liaison on David's retirement from the PC.
- **Playing Fields** – The archery club has secured another site on which to shoot and so has vacated the playing fields. Tamworth FC has reported that some of the maintenance cost requested from the archery group have been paid.
*TF reported that a piece of play equipment in the play area is broken but that he can fix it. Additionally, the play area needs re-barking and money has been set aside each year to pay for this. TF will seek quotes for cost comparison purposes and report back to the council.

* Finally, APC has received the latest play area inspection report but are unable to decipher the writing on it, so clerk to ask NWBC for a more legible copy.

- **Training** – DJ attended a briefing earlier this month about ‘Understanding & Responding to Planning Applications’ and reported that it was very useful & informative. Cllr Jenkins learned about the appeal and judicial review process and section 106 payments.
- **Village Maintenance** – Austrey & Warton Scout Group have written to APC asking for permission to re-plant the wildflower area on the corner of Warton Lane & Bishops Cleeve. It was ruined recently when workmen decided to park maintenance vehicles on it. The group are keen to plant flowers that will attract bees, and the PC are more than happy for the Scouts to do so.

*The bus shelter is due to get a new coat of paint & a volunteer is due to undertake this project soon. TF has also offered to re-paint the old telephone box once we have the paint in our possession.

*Litter picker grabbers, hi-vis vests and 2 new convex safety mirrors have been ordered.

*There is still no news on when the deteriorating pavements in the village will be re-surfaced. The clerk has been asked to write to Cllr Parsons with a deadline of May’s meeting for a useful response.

6 – Planning: 3 planning applications as per the appendix

7 - Correspondence: as per the appendix

8 – Financial & insurance matters: 7 payments as per the appendix

9 – Councillors matters & items for the next agenda: MB has taken delivery of the ‘No Litter’ signs & has asked for email suggestions for the best locations to place them. SG reported that volunteers have come forward to help run a Speed Watch scheme. She will approach Shuttington PC about sharing costs & will write an article for the next newsletter detailing the scheme.

10 – Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday 8th May 2019 and which will include the Annual Meeting.

Meeting closed at 8.52pm

Signed _____ Date _____

